

Revamping of Public Distribution System

129. SHRI GANGADHARA SANIPALLI:
 SHRI K.P. UNNIKRISHNAN:
 SHRI MUMTAZ ANSARI:
 PROF. RASA SINGH RAWAT:
 SHRI V.S.VIJAYA RAGHAVAN:
 SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA:
 SHRI RABI RAY:
 SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE:
 SSSHRI GOPINATH GAJAPATHI:

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state.

(a) whether the Government is revamping the Public Distribution System;

(b) if so, the details thereof,;

(c) whether it is proposed to cover every Block and Village by a Fair Price Shop;

(d) the number of villages, State wise, covered under Public Distribution System and the number of villages left out so far; and

(e) the steps being taken to cover the remaining villages?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI KAMALUD-DIN AHMED): (a) to (e). The Government has decided, in consultation with the State Governments/UT Administrations, to re-orient the PDS to improve its reach of the Public Distribution System on the basis of an area specific approach. It is proposed to cover population living in blocks which are covered by area development programmes such as Desert Development Programme (DDP), Drought Prone Area Programme (DPAP),

certain Designated Hill Areas (DHA) and Integrated Tribal Development Projects (ITDP). These blocks have been identified in consultation with the State Governments/UT Administration. The thrust of the approach is to cover the population in these areas by issue of ration cards to all those who have not been issued such cards so far, opening of additional fair price shops and creation of adequate storage capacity.

Production of Sugar

131. SHRI GANGADHARA SANIPALLI: Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state:

(a) whether higher production of sugar is expected during the current crushing season;

(b) whether the internal demand and also the export commitments will be fully met; and

(c) the incentives, if any announced by the Government during the current season?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD (SHRI TARUN GOGOI): (a) Sugar production during 1991-92 season (October - September) is estimated at about 120 lakh tonnes.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) Government announced an incentive scheme for early crushing under which sugar factories are to be granted 72% free-sale quota, as against normal 55%, on production achieved during the period 1st October, 1991 to 15th November, 1991.

Price of Different Food Grains

132. PROF. UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU: Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state: